

Weather Whys

What

School Tornado Drills

When

Tornado drills should be practiced at least once a year. The best time is in the spring before the traditional start of the severe weather season.

Why

It is essential for students, staff and visitors to know where to take shelter if a tornado threatens. Drills develop familiarity with the tornado safety plan and help people move to shelter quickly in the event of an actual tornado.

How

- For shelter - Go to an interior hall or room on the lowest level away from large outside structures such as towers and multi-story additions. Avoid rooms with exterior windows and long unsupported spans, such as gymnasiums.
- After reaching shelter - Crouch low and protect your neck and head with your arms or a book.
- Develop and post a plan - Develop signs to post near building entrances and in rooms with a diagram showing favored tornado shelter areas. The signs should also contain simple written instructions on what to do in the event of a tornado.